

Public Law 596

CHAPTER 741

August 16, 1954
[S. 1585]

AN ACT

To amend the District of Columbia Traffic Act, 1925, as amended.

D. C. Traffic
Act, 1925, amend-
ments.
Operator's per-
mit.
62 Stat. 173.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of section 7 of the District of Columbia Traffic Act, 1925 (43 Stat. 1121), as amended (sec. 40-301 (a) (1), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended (a) by striking from the first sentence thereof so much as reads "Upon application made under oath and the payment of the fee hereinafter prescribed, the Commissioners or their designated agent shall issue a motor vehicle operator's permit to any individual" and inserting in lieu thereof "The Commissioners or their designated agent shall, upon application, the payment of a fee of \$3, and compliance with such regulations as the Commissioners or their designated agent may prescribe, issue a motor vehicle operator's permit valid for a period not in excess of three years, to any individual sixteen years of age or over"; (b) by inserting in the second sentence thereof after "give a practical demonstration" the following "or produce evidence acceptable to the Commissioners or their designated agent,"; (c) by striking from the second sentence thereof so much as reads "and in the presence of such individuals as may be authorized to conduct the demonstration"; (d) by striking therefrom the fourth, fifth, and sixth sentences; and (e) by striking from the last sentence thereof the colon and proviso, and inserting in lieu thereof "and not for compensation."

62 Stat. 173.

SEC. 2. Paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of section 7 of such Act (43 Stat. 1121), as amended (sec. 40-301 (a) (2), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended to read as follows:

Learner's permit.

"(2) The Commissioners or their designated agent may, upon application and the payment of a fee of \$1, issue a learner's permit, valid for a period of sixty days, to any applicant for a motor vehicle operator's permit, sixteen years of age or over, who has successfully passed all parts of the examination other than the driving demonstration test. Such permit shall entitle the permittee, while having such permit in his immediate possession, to operate a passenger motor vehicle, used solely for purposes of pleasure and not for compensation, when accompanied by the holder of a valid District motor vehicle operator's permit who is occupying a seat beside such permittee."

SEC. 3. Subsection (a) of section 7 of such Act (43 Stat. 1121), as amended (sec. 40-301 (a), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended by adding at the end thereof a new paragraph to read as follows:

Military duty out-
side D. C.
Permit exten-
sion.

"(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the Commissioners or their designated agent may, upon compliance with such regulations as they or their designated agent may prescribe, extend for a period not in excess of six years the validity of the operator's permit of any person who is a resident of the District and who is on active duty outside the District in the Armed Forces or the Merchant Marine of the United States and who was at the time of leaving the District the holder of a valid operator's permit."

SEC. 4. Subsection (b) of section 7 of such Act (43 Stat. 1122), as amended (sec. 40-301 (b), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended to read:

Contents of per-
mit.

"(b) Each operator's permit shall state the name and address of the permittee, together with such other matter as the Commissioners or their designated agent may by regulation prescribe, and shall bear the signature of the permittee."

Repeal.

SEC. 5. Subsection (d) of section 7 of such Act (43 Stat. 1122), as amended (sec. 40-301 (d), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is repealed, and

subsections (e) and (f) of section 7 of such Act, as amended, are redesignated subsections (d) and (e), respectively.

SEC. 6. Subsection (a) of section 8 of such Act (43 Stat. 1123), as amended (sec. 40-303 (a), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended to read as follows:

“(a) The owner or operator of any motor vehicle who is not a legal resident of the District, and who has complied with the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or of a foreign country or political subdivision thereof, in respect of the registration of motor vehicles and the licensing of operators thereof, shall, subject to the provisions of this section, be exempt from compliance with section 7 and with any provision of law or regulation requiring the registration of motor vehicles or the display of identification tags in the District. Such exemption shall cover the period immediately following the entrance of such owner or operator into the District equal to the period for which the Commissioners or their designated agent have previously found that a similar privilege is extended to legal residents of the District by such State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or foreign country or political subdivision thereof. The Commissioners or their designated agent shall from time to time ascertain such privileges and cause their or his findings to be promulgated. When the laws of any State, Territory, or possession of the United States or of a foreign country or of a political subdivision thereof contain a reciprocity provision similar to that hereinabove set forth, or the privilege extended to a legal resident of the District is for the remaining portion of the current District of Columbia registration year, then the owner of any motor vehicle who is a legal resident of such State, Territory, or possession of the United States, or of a foreign country or political subdivision thereof shall comply with the provisions of section 7 of this Act and with every other provision of law or regulation requiring the registration of motor vehicles and the display of identification tags in the District at the time of the expiration of the current motor vehicle registration issued to such owner by such State, Territory, or possession of the United States or a foreign country or political subdivision thereof, unless the Commissioners or their designated agent shall have entered into a reciprocal agreement or arrangement with the duly authorized representatives of such State, Territory, or possession of the United States or a foreign country or political subdivision thereof, further to limit or to extend the period of time during which the validity of the motor vehicle registration and identification tags of such State, Territory, or possession of the United States or foreign country or political subdivision thereof shall be recognized by the District. The Commissioners or their designated agent are hereby authorized and empowered to enter into reciprocal agreements and arrangements as aforesaid. The following persons shall, with respect to the registration of motor vehicles and the licensing of operators thereof, if they have complied with the laws of the State, Territory, or possession from which they have been elected or appointed, or of which they are legal residents, be exempt during their respective terms of office or during the period of their employment as administrative employees from compliance with section 7 and with any other provision of law or regulation requiring the registration of motor vehicles and the display of identification tags in the District: Senators and Representatives in Congress; Delegates to Congress; Resident Commissioners; administrative employees of Senators, Representatives, Delegates, and Resident Commissioners who are legal residents of the State, Territory, or possession from which said Senators, Representatives, Delegates, and Resident Commissioners have been elected or appointed; and

Nonresidents.
Exemption from
registration, etc.

Period of ex-
emption.
Reciprocal
agreements.

Congressmen,
etc.

officers of the executive branch of the Government of the United States who are not domiciled within the District of Columbia, whose appointment to the office held by them was by the President of the United States, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and whose tenure of office is at the pleasure of the President."

Flight from
scene of accident.

SEC. 7. Subsection (b) of section 10 of such Act (43 Stat. 1124), as amended (sec. 40-609 (b), D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended by striking the third sentence thereof.

SEC. 8. Section 10 of such Act (43 Stat. 1124), as amended (sec. 40-609, D. C. Code, 1951 edition), is amended by adding two new subsections "(d)" and "(e)", to read as follows:

Revocation of
operator's permit,
etc.

"(d) The Commissioners or their designated agent shall revoke the operator's permit or the privilege to drive a motor vehicle in the District of Columbia, or revoke both such permit and privilege, of any person who is convicted in the District of any of the following offenses:

"(1) Operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of any intoxicating liquor or narcotic drug.

"(2) Any homicide committed by means of a motor vehicle.

"(3) Leaving the scene of an accident in which the motor vehicle driven by him was involved and in which there is bodily injury, without giving assistance or making known his identity and address and the identity and address of the owner of said vehicle.

"(4) Reckless driving involving bodily injury.

"(5) Any felony in the commission of which a motor vehicle is involved.

"(e) Whenever a judgment of conviction of any offense set forth in subsection (d) has become final, the clerk of the court in which the judgment was entered shall certify such conviction to the Commissioners or their designated agent, who shall thereupon take the action required by subsection (d) of this section. A judgment of conviction shall be deemed to have become final for the purposes of this subsection—

"(1) if no appeal is taken from the judgment, upon the expiration of the time within which an appeal could have been taken, or

"(2) if an appeal is taken from the judgment, the date upon which the judgment, having been sustained, can no longer be appealed from or reviewed on a writ of certiorari."

Effective date.

SEC. 9. This Act shall become effective thirty days after its enactment.

Approved August 16, 1954.

Public Law 597

CHAPTER 751

AN ACT

August 17, 1954
[S. 3137]

To make the provisions of the Act of August 28, 1937, relating to the conservation of water resources in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States, applicable to the entire United States, and to increase and revise the limitation on aid available under the provisions of the said Act, and for other purposes.

Water facility
loans.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled "An Act to promote conservation in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States by aiding in the development of facilities for water storage and utilization, and for other purposes", approved August 28, 1937 (50 Stat. 869), is amended—

16 USC 590r-
590x.
16 USC 590r.

(1) By deleting the phrase "in the arid and semiarid areas of the United States" from the first sentence in the first section;